

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 SIG-01 CIAE-00 PM-04
INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 156294

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, GW, CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS: DISCUSSIONS WITH SPD BUNDESTAG MEMBER
EHMKE

REF: STATE 058444

SUMMARY: AS WAS CASE IN MARCH WHEN HE VISITED WASHINGTON
WITH BRANDT (REFTEL), IN VARIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH DEPTOFFS
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DURING WEEK OF JUNE 27 EHMKE EXPRESSED HIS BELIEF THAT FRG
IN CONJUNCTION WITH U.S. COULD AND SHOULD PLAY CENTRAL ROLE
IN EFFORT REACH A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT AT EARLY DATE. (ALL
CONVERSATIONS TOOK PLACE PRIOR ECEVIT'S FAILURE SECURE
VOTE OF CONFIDENCE.) DEPTOFFS ASSURED EHMKE WE WANT TO
STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH EUROPEANS RE CYPRUS BUT THAT IN
OUR VIEW IT WOULD BE PREMATURE AT THIS STAGE TO DEVELOP ANY

JOINT US-FRG OR US/EC CYPRUS EFFORT. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF CONVERSATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. EHMKE ENCOUNTERED VISITING CYPRUS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU IN DEPARTMENT ON AT LEAST TWO OCCASIONS, INCLUDING IN COUNSELOR'S OFFICE WHILE WAITING FOR APPOINTMENT WITH NIMETZ. CYPRIOTS, WHO RECOGNIZED EHMKE FROM YEAR-END VISIT TO CYPRUS, WERE CURIOUS ABOUT WHETHER U.S. WAS ENCOURAGING POSSIBLE EHMKE-BRANDT CYPRUS INITIATIVE. DEPTOFFS DISCOURAGED SUCH SPECULATION AND NOTED THAT RANGE OF FOREIGN POLICY QUESTIONS WERE DISCUSSED WITH EHMKE WHO MAKES PERIODIC VISITS TO WASHINGTON.

3. IN JUNE 28 MEETING WITH NIMETZ, EHMKE ARGUED STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF A JOINT US-EC EFFORT ON CYPRUS USING INTER ALIA THE LEVERAGE PROVIDED BY A PROBABLE TURKISH REQUEST TO THE FRG, US AND OTHERS FOR HELP IN DEALING WITH THEIR SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. NIMETZ EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT EITHER THE CYPRIOTS OR THE TURKS WANT SUCH HELP AND SAID WE HAD NOT DECIDED WHAT, IF ANY, INITIATIVES SHOULD BE TAKEN. EHMKE STRESSED SPD-RPP CLOSE RELATIONSHIP TO ARGUE FOR SPECIAL FRG ROLE IN INFLUENCING ECEVIT GOVERNMENT TO MOVE ON CYPRUS. EHMKE SAID HE HAD CONVINCED MAKARIOS THAT SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN A CYPRUS GUARANTOR ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE A BAD IDEA BUT EXPRESSED VIEW THAT NO REAL GUARANTEE SYSTEM FOR CYPRUS WAS POSSIBLE WITHOUT U.S. PARTICIPATION. NIMETZ SAID IT CONFIDENTIAL

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WAS VERY DIFFICULT TO ENVISAGE U.S. GUARANTEE ROLE.

4. SIMILAR GROUND WAS COVERED IN JUNE 30 LUNCHEON AT FRG EMBASSY ATTENDED BY UNDER SECRETARY HABIB AND EUR/SE DIRECTOR LEDSKY AND IN JULY 1 MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST. BY END OF VISIT, EHMKE SEEMED CONVINCED THAT WHILE U.S. MIGHT WORK TOGETHER WITH FRG OR EC AT LATER STAGE ON CYPRUS, U.S. WOULD CARRY INITIATIVE DURING NEXT FEW MONTHS AND GERMANS (READ BRANDT) WOULD STAND BACK TO SEE WHAT DEVELOPED. DEFEAT OF ECEVIT LAST WEEKEND SHOULD END ANY IMMEDIATE SPD SPONSORED MOVE IN EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN, BUT IF PAST IS ANY JUDGE, EHMKE WILL BE BACK IN A FEW MONTHS WITH SIMILAR ATTEMPT TO MUDDY THE CYPRUS WATERS. VANCE

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